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## **Governor Doyle Orders State of Emergency for Richland & Dane Counties**

Governor Jim Doyle today declared a state of emergency in Richland and Dane Counties following a series of tornadoes that hit Wisconsin last night.

About two dozen tornadoes hit southern Wisconsin. The hardest hit areas were Stoughton in Dane County and Viola in Richland County. One person was killed in Stoughton. Statewide, approximately 30 people were injured, 20-25 homes were destroyed, and 200 homes were damaged.

"This was a deadly string of storms and tornadoes that hit Wisconsin last night," Governor Doyle said. "I know that I speak on behalf of all the people of Wisconsin when I say that my thoughts and prayers are with the families who lost a loved one, or whose homes were damaged or destroyed by the tornadoes. I will continue to do everything possible to make sure the people and communities impacted by these tornadoes get the help they need to make a quick recovery."

The state of emergency directs state agencies to assist local governments in recovering from this natural disaster. The Executive Order allows for the Wisconsin National Guard to be called to active duty. Governor Doyle has ordered Wisconsin Emergency Management to lead the state's efforts.

Read a copy of Governor Doyle's Executive Order:

<http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/docview.asp?docid=3687&locid=19>.